Appl. No. 09/711,945
Amdt. Dated December 1, 2004
Reply to Final Office Action of July 19, 2004 and Advisory Action of November 3, 2004

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) A system for developing and using a request for transaction framework comprising:

a framework engine configured to enable a market maker to develop a request for transaction framework for a particular market, wherein the framework engine creates the request for transaction framework for the particular market based on attribute parameters selected and defined by the market maker; and

a request for transaction engine to manage a request for transaction using the request for transaction framework, and configured to enable an organization within the particular market to prepare a request relating to a resource requirement and select a response relating to the resource requirement;

wherein the request comprises structured attribute information relating to the resource requirement, the structured attribute information being defined by the market maker using the framework engine.

2. (canceled)

3. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the request for transaction engine comprises:

a request engine;

a response engine; and

an analysis engine.

4. (canceled)

5. (original) The system of claim 3, wherein the request engine comprises a request for proposal engine and a request for quote engine.

6. (original) The system of claim 3, wherein the analysis engine enables a plurality of providers to perform a analysis framework on a plurality of requests based on an extensible number of attributes, wherein the analysis

framework available to the plurality of providers is determined by the market maker using the framework engine.

7. (original) The system of claim 3, wherein the response engine enables the plurality of providers to prepare and transmit a plurality of responses to the request.

8. (original) The system of claim 3, wherein the analysis engine enables an organization to perform a analysis framework on a plurality of responses based on an extensible number of attributes, wherein the analysis framework available to the organization is determined by the market maker using the framework engine.

9. (original) The system of claim 3, wherein:

the organization transmits information to and receives information from the request engine and the analysis engine based on a first language associated with an organization user; and

each of the providers transmit information to and receive information from the response engine and the analysis engine based on a second language associated with a provider user.

10. (original) The system of claim 3, wherein:

the organization transmits information to and receives information from the request engine and the analysis engine based on a first currency associated with an organization user; and

each of the providers transmit information to and receive information from the response engine and the analysis engine based on a first currency associated with a provider user.

11. (original) The system of claim 3, wherein:

the organization transmits information to and receives information from the request engine and the analysis engine based on a first unit of measure associated with an organization user; and

each of the providers transmit information to and receive information from the response engine and the analysis engine based on a second unit of measure associated with a provider user.

12. (previously presented) A computer implemented method for developing and using a request for transaction framework comprising the acts:

developing an electronic request for transaction framework that establishes a set of relevant attributes for a particular market, the set of relevant attributes being selected from a set of existing market attributes based on input from a market maker;

receiving a request for transaction, wherein an organization in the particular market indicates a resource requirement by indicating a set of values for the set of relevant attributes;

receiving a plurality of responses to the request, wherein a plurality of providers for the particular market develop the plurality of responses by indicating a set of values for the set of relevant attributes;

determining a selected response by the organization based on the set of values for the set of relevant variables provided in the plurality of responses; and

analyzing the plurality of responses based on a set of attributes selected by a user, the set of user-selectable attributes being extensible by the user.

13. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the request comprises structured attribute information relating to a resource requirement.

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

analyzing, by the plurality of providers, a plurality of pending requests based on an extensible number of user-selectable attributes.

15. (previously presented) A computer implemented method for developing an electronic online request for transaction market comprising:

determining relevant market attributes;

selecting relevant existing attributes;

selectively creating new attributes;

selecting an analysis framework; and

developing the online request for transaction based on the selected relevant existing attributes, the newly created attributes, and the selected analysis framework.

16. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein the act of selectively creating a new attribute comprises:

determining an attribute name;

determining an attribute data type;

determining a data entry control type;

determining a set of attribute constraints;

determining an attribute analysis framework option; and

developing, based on each of the determined attribute parameters, a new attribute.

17. (original) The method of claim 16, wherein the data entry control type comprises one of, a drop down list, a list box, an input box, a combination box, a radio button, and a check box.

18. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein the act of providing the attribute constraints comprises providing a set of possible attribute values of a data entry control when the data entry control type comprises one of a drop down list, a list box, a combination box and a radio button.

19. (original) The method of claim 16, wherein the act of providing attribute constraints additionally comprises the act of determining a help object to associate with the new attribute.

20. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein each of the acts is implemented using a graphical user interface.

21. (previously presented) A system for developing and using a request for transaction framework comprising:

framework engine means for enabling a market maker to develop a request for transaction framework for a particular market, wherein the framework engine creates the request for transaction framework for the particular market based on attribute parameters selected and defined by the market maker; and

request for transaction means for managing a request for transaction using the request for transaction framework, and enabling an organization within the particular market to prepare a request for transaction relating to a resource requirement and select a response relating to the resource requirement;

wherein the request comprises structured attribute information relating to the resource requirement, the structured attribute information being defined by the market maker using the framework engine.

Claim 22 (canceled)